

ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A device for holding together, adjusting, fitting or fastening parts of a garment, shoe, or any other accessory, comprising:

a first part containing at least one first sheath in which at least one first magnetic or ferromagnetic element is inserted, the first element being movable inside said first sheath, and

a second part containing at least one second magnetic or ferromagnetic element subject or submitted to the magnetic attraction of the first magnetic or ferromagnetic element of the first part,

wherein the first and second parts are used to hold together, adjust, fit or fasten the garment, shoe or accessory when one of the first and second parts is activated by a user to work in conjunction with the other part, a multitude of adjustments or alterations being possible through the sliding of the first magnetic or ferromagnetic element in said first sheath, and

wherein the second magnetic or ferromagnetic element is included and movable in a second sheath belonging to the second part.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the second magnetic or ferromagnetic element is attached to the second part.

4. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first part and/or second part have two sheathes.

5. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the first and second parts is at least in part formed by a strap or braces.

6. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least one of the first and second magnetic or ferromagnetic elements is formed by a magnetized or ferromagnetic area on said braces or strap belonging to the first or second corresponding part.

7. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one magnetic or ferromagnetic element of one of the first or second parts of the device is concave in shape, and the at least one magnetic or ferromagnetic element of the other of the first and second parts is convex in shape and complementary to the concave shape of the at least one magnetic or ferromagnetic elements of the one of the first or second parts.

C) 8. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one or more of the magnetic or ferromagnetic elements are flat, trapezoid, rectangular, circular or triangular in shape.

9. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein at least one magnetic or ferromagnetic element of one part is cylindrical.

10. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the corresponding magnetic or ferromagnetic element of the other part is flat.

11. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the corresponding magnetic or ferromagnetic element of the other part is cylindrical.

12. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, further including a means for mechanically moving the first sheath.

13. (currently amended) A device ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ for holding together, adjusting, fitting or fastening parts of a garment, shoe, or any other accessory, comprising:

a first part containing at least one first sheath in which at least one first magnetic or ferromagnetic element is inserted, the first element being movable inside said first sheath, and

a second part containing at least one second magnetic or ferromagnetic element subject or submitted to the magnetic attraction of the first magnetic or ferromagnetic element of the first part,

wherein the first and second parts are used to hold together, adjust, fit or fasten the garment, shoe or accessory when one of the first and second parts is activated by a user to work in conjunction with the other part, a multitude of adjustments or alterations being possible through the sliding of the first magnetic or ferromagnetic element in said first sheath, and

wherein at least one of the first and second parts has a series of at least two magnetic or ferromagnetic elements hinged together.

14. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the elements is surface-polarized.

15. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a polarization of at least one of the elements is axial, parallel to the sheath.

16. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the elements is multipolar.

17. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, further including at least two of the first elements in the first sheath, which two first elements are of opposite polarization.

18. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each element is associated with an anti-magnetic protection component.

19. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one element is multipolar, and said at least one element is sandwiched between two blocking parts used to block the magnetic flux.

20. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the first and second elements has a width 'd', and wherein a structural thickness of the device between the first and second elements is less than $d/12$.

21. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one magnetic or ferromagnetic element is glued, welded or embedded on a support plate.

22. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first sheath also has a strip of ferromagnetic cloth along all or part of a length thereof.

23. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first sheath also has stitches sewn with ferromagnetic conductor wire along at least part of a length thereof.

24. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the magnetic or ferromagnetic elements have rounded edges.

25. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the elements are produced from Neodymium Iron Boron a family of rare earths magnet of a Neodymium Iron Boron type.

26. (currently amended) A device as ~~claimed in claim 1~~ for holding together, adjusting, fitting or fastening parts of a garment, shoe, or any other accessory, comprising:

a first part containing at least one first sheath in which at least one first magnetic or ferromagnetic element is inserted, the first element being movable inside said first sheath, and

a second part containing at least one second magnetic or ferromagnetic element subject or submitted to the magnetic attraction of the first magnetic or ferromagnetic element of the first part,

wherein the first and second parts are used to hold together, adjust, fit or fasten the garment, shoe or accessory when one of the first and second parts is activated by a user to work in conjunction with the other part, a multitude of adjustments or alterations being possible through the sliding of the first magnetic or ferromagnetic element in said first sheath, and

cl further including a means to activate the first movable magnetic or ferromagnetic element remotely.

27. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the means for remote activation contain a means for motorization of the at least one first movable magnetic or ferromagnetic element, allowing a mechanical movement of the corresponding first sheath.

28. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 27, further including a means for motorization of at least one first and at least one second magnetic or ferromagnetic element which is capable of working in conjunction with the at least one first element.

29. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the means for remote activation include a microprocessor which is used for automatic adjustment so that an item can be adapted during use, by limiting tightening, and thus ensuring optimum adjustment.

30. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 29, wherein the means for remote activation also include a means for storing different adjustments, corresponding to different users or situations.

31. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the means for remote activation include a photoelectric sensor, and/or a temperature sensor, and/or a humidity sensor.

32. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the means for remote activation include an elastic or spring-operated traction system attached or connected to the first movable magnetic or ferromagnetic element, and capable of acting through the corresponding first sheath, and a system for locking the said traction system in one or more preset positions.

c1 33. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 32, wherein the traction system is attached to the first sheath, or passes through said first sheath.

34. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one element is a magnet which is formed from a block drilled along an axis thereof with at least one cylindrical hole and containing, on a side of one of the surfaces thereof, a transverse channel parallel to said surface and through which sewing thread can be run entirely below said surface.

35. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one magnetic element is formed from a block drilled along an axis thereof with at least one cylindrical hole and containing, on a side of one of the surfaces thereof, a cupel through which sewing thread can be run entirely below said surface.

36. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the magnet has two cylindrical holes.

37. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the magnet is covered with an anti-magnetic sheath on at least one surface.

38. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, further including a means for detecting and signalling that the parts of the garment, shoe or any other accessory are correctly fastened or fitted.

39. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 38, wherein the detection and signalling means contains a circuit of conductor wires connected to the magnetic or ferromagnetic elements, said magnetic or ferromagnetic elements acting as contactors to close the circuit.

40. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 38, further including a means for triggering an alarm or sending a command if specific preset conditions are complied or not complied with.

c1 41. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 27,
wherein the accessory is a shoe; and
wherein the means for remote activation include a switch located in a sole of the shoe, which can be activated by the user when he puts his foot in the shoe, this allowing automatic adjustment of the shoe.

42. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the accessory is a garment with a hem which is adjusted; and
wherein the sheath is extended by a piece of fabric to which the second magnetic or ferromagnetic element is attached.

43. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 42, wherein the garment is weighted inside the hem.

44. (canceled)

45. (currently amended) A shoe containing a device as claimed in claim 1 as claimed in claim 44, further including:

three solid sections, namely a right section, a left section and a central section,
two open sections, each respective open section separating two respective solid sections on either side thereof, and

at least one strap fixed to a middle on the central section and fitted on both sides with sheathes containing movable magnets, which said strap is used to bring the right and left sections towards the central section, in order to adjust tightening of the shoe.

46. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 27,
wherein the accessory is a shoe; and
further including:

c1 three solid sections, namely, a right section, a left section and a central section,

two open sections, each respective open section separating two respective solid sections on either side thereof,

at least one strap fixed to a middle on the central section and fitted on both sides with sheathes containing movable magnets, which said strap is used to bring the right and left sections towards the central section, in order to adjust tightening of the shoe; and

at least one adjustment strap containing a magnetic or ferromagnetic part which disappears into a wall of the shoe, such that the motorization means is capable of pulling or releasing the said adjustment strap automatically.

47. (previously presented) A garment, containing a device as claimed in claim 1.

48. (previously presented) A garment as claimed in claim 47, further including a cloth, a weft of which said cloth is threaded with conductor wire connected to an alarm used to signal if the wire is cut and therefore that the garment is damaged.

c¹ 49. (currently amended) An accessory ~~such as braces or belts, bags, organizers~~
~~and leather goods~~, wherein the accessory contains a device as claimed in claim 1.
